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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 1 of 1

<b>Confirmation Number</b>	1232
<b>Application Number</b>	10/015631
<b>Filing Date</b>	10/DEC/2001
<b>First Named Inventor</b>	BENNIE THOMPSON
<b>Group Art Unit</b>	3731
<b>Examiner Name</b>	NGUYEN, TUAN VAN
<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	END0786USA

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
/TN/		2001/039426	A1	Makower	11-08-2001	
		3618842	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		3643851	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		3717294	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		3819100	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		3949924	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		4204623	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		4304236	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		4331277	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		4349028	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
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		4595007		Mericle		
		4621639		Transue et al		
		4728020	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5040715	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5062563	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5127486		Rice et al.	06-08-1993	
		5190203	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5192288	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5217472	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5258010	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5423858	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5437684	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
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/TN/	5443198	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
	5447514	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
	5454825	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
	5478003		Green, David T.	12-26-1995	
	5485952	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
	5522817	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
	5560532	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
	5593421	A	Bauer	01-14-1997	
	6530933		Yeung, et al		
	6626916		Yeung, et al		

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T <sup>5</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	KindCode <sup>5</sup>				
/TN/		EP	40157	A1	United States Surgical Corp.	EP		
		EP	543107	B1	United States Surgical Corp.	EP		
		WO	98/07374	A	Hayhurst	02-26-1998		

Examiner Signature	/Tuan Nguyen/	Date Considered	06/17/2008
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